



GREECE



INTRODUCTION

Greece achieved independence from the Ottoman Empire in 1830 and became a kingdom. In 1974, it became a parliamentary republic and abolished the monarchy. In 1981 Greece joined the EU.

GOVERNMENT

Chief of State

President Ekaterini SAKELLAROPOULOU

Head of Government

Prime Minister Kyriakos MITSOTAKIS

Government Type

parliamentary republic

Capital

Athens

Legislature

unicameral Hellenic Parliament or Vouli ton Ellinon (300 seats)

GEOGRAPHY

Area

Total: 131,957 sq km

Land: 130,647 sq km

Water: 1,310 sq km

Climate

temperate; mild, wet winters; hot, dry summers

Natural Resources

lignite, petroleum, iron ore, bauxite, lead, zinc, nickel, magnesite, marble, salt, hydropower potential

ECONOMY

Economic Overview

tourism- and shipping-based EU economy; clientelism economic culture and systemic corruption; new structural reforms for fiscal solvency; high public debts and unemployment; increasing Chinese port control; oil and gas disputes with Turkey

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) \$292.4 billion (2020 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) \$27,300 (2020 est.)

Industries - tourism, food and tobacco processing, textiles, chemicals, metal products, mining, petroleum

Agricultural products - maize, olives, wheat, milk, peaches/nectarines, oranges, tomatoes, grapes, milk, potatoes

Exports \$59.02 billion (2020 est.)

refined petroleum, packaged medicines, aluminum plating, computers, cotton (2019)

partners: Italy 10%, Germany 7%, Turkey 5%, Cyprus 5%, Bulgaria 5% (2019)

Imports \$71.76 billion (2020 est.)

crude and refined petroleum, packaged medicines, cars, ships (2019)

partners: Germany 11%, China 9%, Italy 8%, Iraq 7%, Russia 6%, Netherlands 5% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population

10.6 million (July 2021 est.)

Population Growth

-0.34% (2021 est.)

Ethnicity

Greek 91.6%, Albanian 4.4%, other 4% (2011)

Language

Greek (official) 99%, other (includes English and French) 1%

Religion

Greek Orthodox 81-90%, Muslim 2%, other 3%, none 4-15%, unspecified 1% (2015 est.)

Urbanization

urban population: 80% of total population (2021)

rate of urbanization: 0.11% annual rate of change (2020-25 est.)

